Adult and Teen Life Groups Conferencing Guide

DISTRIBUTION DATE: 02/24/2019
DISCUSSION DATE: 03/03/2019
TEXT: LUKE 2:36-40

Growing Up Gracefully

I. *THE BACKGROUND OF LUKE 2*

A. The birth of our Lord is presented (vv. 1-20)

B. Our Lord's circumcision on the 8th day (vv. 21-24)

C. Our young Lord as seen by two early, faithful witnesses (vv. 25-40)

1. Simeon (vv. 25-35)
2. Anna (vv. 36-40)

D. Our Lord teaches the doctors in Jerusalem (vv. 41-47)

II. *GROWING UP LIKE OUR LORD*

A. The context: Jesus is being described between the ages of 8 and 12 years old.

B. He "…waxed strong in spirit"

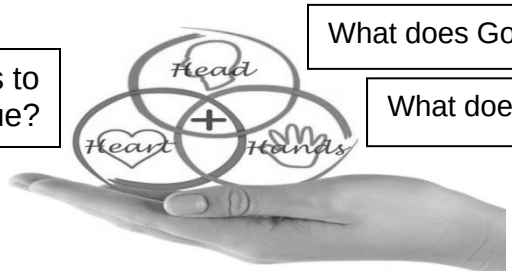
C. Then there is the special phrase, "…filled with wisdom"

D. Finally, we get to the really graceful part of the verse: "…and the grace of God was upon him."

What does God want us to desire/value?

What does God want us to know?

What does God want us to do?



1. How does reading Luke 2 outside of the Christmas season help you to see other things?

2. Read vv. 10 & 11. Is news of Jesus still “good news” to you? Why (or how can you prove it)?

3. Read v. 17. What was it that the shepherds did after seeing the baby Jesus? Why do we not do the same?

4. Read vv. 30-32. What is significant about Simeon’s statements upon seeing Jesus? Why does it still bless us today?

5. Read v. 37. What did Anna do on a daily basis that we seldom do? Could this be why we are not hand-picked by God for special times in God’s presence?

6. Read v. 40. Are the characteristics described here ones that only Jesus can possess? Who is being described in Lk. 1:80? What ones have you had experience with?

7. As children of God, are we expected to grow? What might that look like? Why do we expect children to grow but not adults?

8. What does it mean to “become strong in spirit”? Does this sentence come close? “Everything about our inside thoughts, will, emotions, and heart, are to be growing in the direction of the Lord.”

9. Why would being “filled with wisdom” be a good thing? Where in the Bible can we find it?

10. When was the last time you asked God to put His “grace upon you”? Read 2 Cor. 6:1. Has the grace of God ever been received in vain by you? What should you do about it?